



C.A.M. Electric Inc.

22536 S. Hwy 550, Montrose CO 81403

PH: 970-249-6617, Fax: 970-249-6977, e-mail: camcnatt@aol.com

January 8, 2020

Honorable Senator Michael Bennet
261 Russell Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

I write you from Montrose County as the President of C.A.M. Electric Inc. to express our support for the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act. This piece of legislation is over a decade in the making and has widespread support across Colorado. From the mineral withdrawals in critical big game habitat, to the establishment of the Curecanti National Recreation Area boundary managed by the National Park Service, to the Wilderness designations across high peaks, and to the memorial at Camp Hale, this legislation is as diverse in its protections as it is in its supporters.

Our business and community, like so many across Colorado, rely on protected public lands to support our economy and foster our way of life. Here at C.A.M. Electric Inc. we are joining the counties, municipalities, hunters, anglers, ranchers, recreationists, and business owners who support the CORE Act for all of these reasons:

- The economy:
 - Colorado has a \$62.5 billion outdoor recreation economy that employs 511,000 people (19% of the statewide workforce).
 - Protected public lands are what drive this economy and support communities like ours. Our company is made up of employees who are attracted to western Colorado because of the diverse opportunities available to them to enjoy public lands. Without these opportunities it would be extremely difficult to find enough people to build our company and communities.
- The way of life:
 - People move to Colorado for the way of life, and protections like those in the CORE Act are what give all of us the opportunity to enjoy these places in whichever way we choose.
- Protecting lands for future generations:
 - If we want to pass this planet on to our children better than we received it, we must protect the landscapes across the state. Without protection, these places are open to destruction and exploitation, by protecting them we can ensure our kids and grandkids have places to hunt, fish, ski, bike, and recreate long after we are gone.
- Value of healthy ecosystems:
 - Healthy landscapes help maintain clean air and pristine watersheds so vital to human health and our state's agriculture.

- Forests sequester carbon, build soil and prevent erosion.
- Protection of intact ecosystems fosters biodiversity and resiliency while conserving wildlife corridors.

These along with so many other reasons are why we need to pass the CORE Act. We appreciate the dedication and hard work of Representative Neguse to get the legislation through the House of Representatives and are excited to see you, Senator Bennet, do the same in the Senate. It is what Colorado needs and Coloradans want!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris A. McNatt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris A. McNatt
President
C.A.M. Electric Inc.